

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Privacy Act System of Records

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission (FCC or Commission)

ACTION: Notice; one altered Privacy Act system of records; revision of four routine uses; addition of two new routine uses; and deletion of one routine use.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to subsection (e)(4) of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended (Privacy Act), the FCC proposes to change the name and alter one system of records, FCC/CGB-1, "Informal Complaints, Inquiries, and Requests for Dispute Assistance" (formerly FCC/CGB-1, "Informal Complaints and Inquiries"). The FCC will alter the categories of individuals; the categories of records; the authority for maintenance of the system; the purposes for collecting the information; four routine uses: (3), (4), (7) and (8) (add new routine uses: (2) and (5), and delete one routine use: (4)); the policies and practices for storing, retrieving, accessing, retaining, and disposing of records in the system; the system manager and address; the notification, record access, and contesting record procedures; and make various other minor edits and revisions as necessary to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended. **DATES:** In accordance with subsections (e)(4) and (e)(11) of the Privacy Act, any interested person may submit written comments concerning the alteration of this system of records on or before [INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER]. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB), which has oversight responsibility under the Privacy Act to review the system of records, and Congress may submit comments on or before [INSERT DATE 40 DAYS **AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATIONIN THE FEDERAL REGISTER**]. The proposed altered system of records will become effective on [INSERT DATE 40 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN **THE FEDERAL REGISTER**] unless the FCC receives comments that require a contrary determination. The Commission will publish a document in the Federal Register notifying the public if any changes are necessary. As required by 5 U.S.C. 552a(r) of the Privacy Act, the FCC is submitting reports on this proposed altered system to OMB and to both Houses of Congress.

ADDRESSES: Address comments to Leslie F. Smith, Privacy Analyst, Performance Evaluation and Records Management (PERM), Room 1-C216, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20554, or via the Internet at Leslie.Smith@fcc.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Contact Leslie F. Smith, Performance Evaluation and Records Management (PERM), Room 1-C216, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20554, (202) 418-0217 or via the Internet at Leslie.Smith@fcc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: As required by the <u>Privacy Act of 1974</u>, as amended, 5 U.S.C. 552a(e)(4) and (e)(11), this document sets forth notice of the proposed alteration of one system of records maintained by the FCC, revision of four routine uses: (3), (4), (7), and (8), addition of two new routine uses (2) and (5), and deletion of one routine use (4). The FCC previously gave complete notice of the system of records (FCC/CGB-1, "Informal Complaints and Inquiries") covered under this Notice by publication in the **Federal Register** on December 15, 2009 (74 FR66356). This notice is a summary of the more detailed information about the proposed altered system of records, which may be obtained or viewed under the contact and information at the location given above in the "ADDRESSES" section. The purposes for altering FCC/CGB-1, "Informal Complaints, Inquiries, and Requests for Dispute Assistance" (formerly FCC/CGB-1, "Informal Complaints and Inquiries") are to change the name of the system to FCC/GCB-1, "Informal Complaints, Inquiries, and Requests for Dispute Assistance," to reflect the changes to the system's contents; to revise the categories of individuals; to revise the categories of records; to revise the authority for maintenance of the system; to revise the purposes for which the information is maintained; to revise routine uses (3) (formerly (2)), (4) (formerly (3))), (7) (formerly (6)), and (8) (formerly (7)); to add new routine uses (2) and (5); to delete one routine use (4); to revise the policies and practices for storing, retrieving, accessing, retaining, and disposing of records in the system;

to revise the system manager and address; to revise the notification, records access, and contesting records procedures; and to make other edits and revisions as necessary to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended (5 U.S.C. 552a), and the regulations and requirements of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). The FCC will achieve these purposes by altering this system of records with these changes:

Revision of the language regarding the Categories of Individuals Covered by the System, for clarity and to note that:

The categories of individuals in the system include individuals, groups, and other entities who make or have made informal complaints, inquiries, or requests for dispute assistance on matters arising under the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, and the Rehabilitation Act;

Revision of the language in the Categories of Records in the System, for clarity and to note that:

The categories of records in this system include both computerized information contained in a database and paper copies of inquiries, requests for dispute assistance, informal complaints, and related supporting information made by individuals, groups, or other entities; and company replies to complaints, requests, inquiries, and Commission letters regarding such complaints, requests, and inquiries.

The categories of records may also include submissions that individuals, groups, or other entities make, including, but not limited to, submissions made by letter, fax, telephone, e-mail, and via the FCC web portal at www.fcc.gov;

Revision of the Authority for Maintenance of the System to add several rule sections, so that the authorities include:

Sections 1, 4, 206, 208, 225, 226, 227, 228, 255, 258, 301, 303, 309(e), 312, 362, 364, 386, 507, 710, 713, 716, 717, and 718 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. 151, 154, 206, 208, 225, 226, 227, 228, 255, 258, 301, 303, 309(e), 312, 362, 364, 386, 507, 610, 613, 617, 618, and 619; Sections 504 and 508 of the Rehabilitation Act, 29 U.S.C. 794 and 794d; and 47 CFR 0.111, 0.141, 1.711

et seq., 14.30 et seq., 20.19, 64.604, 68.414 et seq., and 79.1 et seq.

Revision of the language regarding the Purpose(s) for which the information in the system is maintained, for clarity and to note that:

The records in this system are used by Commission personnel to handle and process informal complaints, inquiries, and requests for dispute assistance received from individuals, groups, and other entities.

Records in this system are available for public inspection after redaction of information that could identify the complainant or correspondent, such as the complainant's name, address, telephone number, fax number, and/or e-mail address.

Revision of the language in Routine Use (3) "FCC Enforcement Actions" to note that:

When an order or other Commission-issued document that includes consideration of informal complaints filed against telecommunications providers, broadcasters, multi-channel video programming distributors, voice-over-internet-protocol providers, and/or wireless providers is entered by the FCC to implement or enforce the Communications Act, pertinent rule, regulation, or order of the FCC, the complainant's name may be made public in that order or document. When an order or other Commission-issued document that includes consideration of an informal complaint about accessibility for individuals with disabilities filed against a company (including telecommunications and advanced communications service providers and equipment manufacturers; video programming owners, providers, and distributors, including broadcasters and multichannel video programming distributors; and manufacturers of apparatus used to receive, play back, or record video programming) is entered or released by the FCC to implement or enforce the Communications Act, pertinent rule, regulation, or order of the FCC, the complainant's name may be made public in that order or document. Where a complainant in filing his or her complaint explicitly requests confidentiality of his or her name from public disclosure, the Commission will endeavor to protect such information from public disclosure. Complaints that contain requests for

confidentiality may be dismissed if the Commission determines that the request impedes the Commission's ability to investigate and/or resolve the complaint;

Revision of the language in Routine Use (4) "Law Enforcement and Investigation" to note that:

Where there is an indication of a violation or potential violation of a statute, regulation, rule, or order, records from this system may be referred to the appropriate Federal, state, Tribal, or local agency either for purposes of obtaining additional information relevant to a FCC decision or for referring the record for investigation, enforcement, or prosecution by another agency;

Revision of the language in Routine Use (7) "Congressional Inquiries" to note that:

Records on an individual in this system may be disclosed when requested by a congressional office in response to an inquiry by an individual made to the congressional office for the individual's own records; Revision of the language in Routine Use (8) "Government-wide Program Management and Oversight" to note that:

When requested by the General Services Administration (GSA), the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), and/or the Government Accountability Office (GAO) for the purpose of records management inspections conducted under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906 (such disclosure(s) shall not be used to make a determination about individuals); when the Department of Justice (DOJ) is contacted in order to obtain that department's advice regarding disclosure obligations under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA); or when the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) is contacted in order to obtain that office's advice regarding obligations under the Privacy Act;

Addition of new Routine Use (2) "Informal Complaints, Inquiries, and Requests for Dispute Assistance about Accessibility for Individuals with Disabilities" to note that:

When a record in this system involves an informal complaint, inquiry, or request for dispute assistance involving or filed against a company (including telecommunications and advanced communications service providers and equipment manufacturers; video programming owners, providers, and distributors,

including broadcasters and multichannel video programming distributors; and manufacturers of apparatus used to receive, play back, or record video programming) about accessibility for individuals with disabilities, the inquiry, request, or informal complaint may be forwarded to the subject company for a response, pursuant to Section 4(i), 208, and 303(r) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended; Deletion of Routine Use (4) and its replacement with new Routine Use (5) "Adjudication and Litigation" to note that:

Where by careful review, the Commission determines that the records are both relevant and necessary to litigation and the use of such records is deemed by the Commission to be for a purpose that is compatible with the purpose for which the Commission collected the records, these records may be used by a court or adjudicative body in a proceeding when: (a) the Commission or any component thereof; or (b) any employee of the Commission in his or her official capacity; or (c) any employee of the Commission in his or her individual capacity where the Commission has agreed to represent the employee; or (d) the United States Government is a party to litigation or has an interest in such litigation;

Revision of the language regarding the Policies and Practices for Storing, Retrieving, Accessing, Retaining, and Disposing of Records in the System, for clarity and to note that:

Storage:

The Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau staff logs consumer informal complaints, inquiries, and requests for dispute assistance that it receives into its Complaint and Inquiry Management System (CIMS), Consolidated Complaint Management System (CCMS), and other electronic databases and network databases not specifically named here that are used to store consumer informal complaints and inquiries, including requests for dispute assistance. Each request for dispute assistance and informal complaint submission is automatically assigned a file identification number for future reference when the case is entered into one of the databases. This identification number tracks consumer submissions and assists with identification of duplicate filings, which occur when consumers file multiple

submissions. Confidential paper submissions are moved to a locked storage room for safekeeping.

All records are kept in accordance with the agency records control schedule approved by NARA.

Retrievability:

Information in this system, including, but not limited to records, files, and data, may be retrieved by the individual's personal identifiers (such as the complainant's name, address, telephone number, fax number, and/or e-mail address), entity name, program name, date received and date closed, problem description field, and/or call sign.

Safeguards:

Electronic records that emanate from these informal complaint, inquiry submissions, and requests for dispute assistance are maintained in CIMS, CCMS, or other electronic and network computer databases not specifically named here, which are secured through controlled access and passwords restricted to a limited number of FCC employees or contractors working on informal complaints, inquiries, and requests for dispute assistance. In addition, as an added security measure, the staff in the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau, Enforcement Bureau, and other FCC bureaus and offices who are assigned responsibility for resolution of these records in CIMS are only allowed access to these records via a "license" that also tracks their use of the records. Confidential paper submissions are moved to a locked storage room for safekeeping.

Retention and Disposal:

The information in this system is limited to electronic data, paper files, and audio files, such as telephone call records. The information is retained at the FCC and then destroyed in accordance with the agency records control schedule N1-173-07-1, approved by the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), which generally requires that source records are destroyed three years after data are entered into the system, and records in the master file are destroyed three years after the case is closed.

Revision of the language regarding the System Managers and Address of the system, for clarity and to note that individuals seeking information about themselves in this system should: Address inquiries to the Privacy Analyst, Office of Managing Director or Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20554.

Revision of the Notification, Record Access, and Contesting Record Procedures for the system, for clarity and to note that individuals seeking information about themselves in this system should:

Address inquiries to the Privacy Analyst, Office of Managing Director or Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20554. An individual requesting access must follow FCC Privacy Act regulations regarding verification of identity and amendment of records. See 47 CFR 0.554-0.557.

Revision or modification of other data elements in CGB-1, as required, to make editorial changes to update, simply, or clarify, as necessary, this system of records notice (SORN) to make various other minor edits and revisions as necessary to comply with the requirements of the <u>Privacy Act of 1974</u>, as amended.

This notice meets the requirement of documenting the changes to the systems of records that the FCC maintains, and provides the public, Congress, and OMB an opportunity to comment.

FCC/CGB-1

System Name:

Informal Complaints, Inquiries, and Requests for Dispute Assistance

Security Classification:

The FCC's Security Operations Center (SOC) has not assigned a security classification to this system of records.

System Location:

Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20554 and 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325.

Categories of Individuals Covered by the System:

The categories of individuals in this system include individuals, groups, and other entities who make or have made informal complaints, inquiries, or requests for dispute assistance on matters arising under the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, and the Rehabilitation Act.

Categories of Records in the System:

The categories of records in this system include both computerized information contained in a database and paper copies of inquiries, requests for dispute assistance, informal complaints, and related supporting information made by individuals, groups, or other entities; and company replies to complaints, requests, inquiries, and Commission letters regarding such complaints, requests, and inquiries.

The categories of records may also include submissions that individuals, groups, or other entities make, including, but not limited to, submissions made by letter, fax, telephone, e-mail, and via the FCC web portal at www.fcc.gov.

Authority for Maintenance of the System:

Sections 1, 4, 206, 208, 225, 226, 227, 228, 255, 258, 301, 303, 309(e), 312, 362, 364, 386, 507, 710, 713, 716, 717, and 718 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. 151, 154, 206, 208, 225, 226, 227, 228, 255, 258, 301, 303, 309(e), 312, 362, 364, 386, 507, 610, 613, 617, 618, and 619; Sections 504 and 508 of the Rehabilitation Act, 29 U.S.C. 794 and 794d; and 47 CFR 0.111, 0.141, 1.711 et seq., 14.30 et seq., 20.19, 64.604, 68.414 et seq., and 79.1 et seq..

Purposes:

The records in this system are used by Commission personnel to handle and process informal complaints, inquiries, and requests for dispute assistance received from individuals, groups, and other entities.

Records in this system are available for public inspection after redaction of information that could

identify the complainant or correspondent, such as the complainant's name, address, telephone number, fax number, and/or e-mail address.

Routine Uses of Records Maintained in the System, Including Categories of Users and the Purposes of Such Uses:

Information about individuals in this system of records may routinely be disclosed under the following conditions:

- Informal Complaints When a record in this system involves an informal complaint filed against
 telecommunications providers, broadcasters, multi-channel video program distributors, voice-overinternet-protocol providers, and/or wireless providers, the complaint may be forwarded to the subject
 company for a response, pursuant to Sections 4(i), 208, and 303(r) of the Communications Act of
 1934, as amended.
- 2. Informal Complaints, Inquiries, and Requests for Dispute Assistance about Accessibility for Individuals with Disabilities When a record in this system involves an informal complaint, inquiry, or request for dispute assistance involving or filed against a company (including telecommunications and advanced communications service providers and equipment manufacturers; video programming owners, providers, and distributors, including broadcasters and multichannel video programming distributors; and manufacturers of apparatus used to receive, play back, or record video programming) about accessibility for individuals with disabilities, the inquiry, request, or informal complaint may be forwarded to the subject company for a response, pursuant to Section 4(i), 208, and 303(r) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended.
- 3. FCC Enforcement Actions When an order or other Commission-issued document that includes consideration of informal complaints filed against telecommunications providers, broadcasters, multichannel video program distributors, voice-over-internet-protocol providers, and/or wireless providers is entered by the FCC to implement or enforce the Communications Act, pertinent rule, regulation, or

order of the FCC, the complainant's name may be made public in that order or document. When an order or other Commission-issued document that includes consideration of an informal complaint about accessibility for individuals with disabilities filed against a company (including telecommunications and advanced communications service providers and equipment manufacturers; video programming owners, providers, and distributors, including broadcasters and multichannel video programming distributors; and manufacturers of apparatus used to receive, play back, or record video programming) is entered or released by the FCC to implement or enforce the Communications Act, pertinent rule, regulation, or order of the FCC, the complainant's name may be made public in that order or document. Where a complainant in filing his or her complaint explicitly requests confidentiality of his or her name from public disclosure, the Commission will endeavor to protect such information from public disclosure. Complaints that contain requests for confidentiality may be dismissed if the Commission determines that the request impedes the Commission's ability to investigate and/or resolve the complaint.

- 4. Law Enforcement and Investigation Where there is an indication of a violation or potential violation of a statute, regulation, rule, or order, records from this system may be referred to the appropriate Federal, state, Tribal, or local agency either for purposes of obtaining additional information relevant to a FCC decision or for referring the record for investigation, enforcement, or prosecution by another agency.
- 5. Adjudication and Litigation Where by careful review, the Commission determines that the records are both relevant and necessary to litigation and the use of such records is deemed by the Commission to be for a purpose that is compatible with the purpose for which the Commission collected the records, these records may be used by a court or adjudicative body in a proceeding when: (a) the Commission or any component thereof; or (b) any employee of the Commission in his or her official capacity; or (c) any employee of the Commission in his or her individual capacity where the

- Commission has agreed to represent the employee; or (d) the United States Government is a party to litigation or has an interest in such litigation.
- 6. Department of Justice A record from this system of records may be disclosed to the Department of Justice or in a proceeding before a court or adjudicative body when:
 - (a) the United States, the Commission, a component of the Commission, or, when represented by the government, an employee of the Commission is a party to litigation or anticipated litigation or has an interest in such litigation, and
 - (b) the Commission determines that the disclosure is relevant or necessary to the litigation.
- 7. Congressional Inquiries When requested by a congressional office in response to an inquiry by an individual made to the congressional office for the individual's own records.
- 8. Government-wide Program Management and Oversight When requested by the General Services Administration (GSA), the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), and/or the Government Accountability Office (GAO) for the purpose of records management inspections conducted under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906 (such disclosure(s) shall not be used to make a determination about individuals); when the Department of Justice (DOJ) is contacted in order to obtain that department's advice regarding disclosure obligations under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA); or when the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) is contacted in order to obtain that office's advice regarding obligations under the Privacy Act.
- 9. Breach of Federal Data A record from this system may be disclosed to appropriate agencies, entities, and persons when (1) the Commission suspects or has confirmed that the security or confidentiality of information in the system of records has been compromised; (2) the Commission has determined that as a result of the suspected or confirmed compromise there is a risk of harm to economic or property interests, identity theft or fraud, or harm to the security or integrity of this system or other systems or programs (whether maintained by the Commission or another agency or

entity) that rely upon the compromised information; and (3) the disclosure made to such agencies, entities, and persons is reasonably necessary to assist in connection with the Commission's efforts to respond to the suspected or confirmed compromise and prevent, minimize, or remedy such harm.

In each of these cases, the FCC will determine whether disclosure of the records is compatible with the purpose for which the records were collected.

Disclosure to Consumer Reporting Agencies:

None.

Policies and Practices for Storing, Retrieving, Accessing, Retaining, and Disposing of Records in the System:

Storage:

The Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau staff logs consumer informal complaints, inquiries, and requests for dispute assistance that it receives into its Complaint and Inquiry Management System (CIMS), Consolidated Complaint Management System (CCMS), and other electronic databases and network databases not specifically named here that are used to store consumer informal complaints and inquiries, including requests for dispute assistance. Each request for dispute assistance and informal complaint submission is automatically assigned a file identification number for future reference when the case is entered into one of the databases. This identification number tracks consumer submissions and assists with identification of duplicate filings, which occur when consumers file multiple submissions. Confidential paper submissions are moved to a locked storage room for safekeeping.

All records are kept in accordance with the agency records control schedule approved by NARA.

Retrievability:

Information in this system, including, but not limited to records, files, and data, may be retrieved by the individual's personal identifiers (such as the complainant's name, address, telephone number, fax number,

and/or e-mail address), entity name, program name, date received and date closed, problem description field, and/or call sign.

Safeguards:

Electronic records that emanate from these informal complaint, inquiry submissions, and requests for dispute assistance are maintained in CIMS, CCMS, or other electronic and network computer databases not specifically named here, which are secured through controlled access and passwords restricted to a limited number of FCC employees or contractors working on informal complaints, inquiries, and requests for dispute assistance. These various safeguards comply with the FCC's IT security and privacy protocols. In addition, as an added security measure, the staff in the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau, Enforcement Bureau, and other FCC bureaus and offices who are assigned responsibility for resolution of these records in CIMS are only allowed access to these records via a "license" that also tracks their use of the records. Confidential paper submissions are moved to a locked storage room for safekeeping.

Retention and Disposal:

The information in this system is limited to electronic data, paper files, and audio files, such as telephone call records. The information is retained at the FCC and then destroyed in accordance with the agency records control schedule N1-173-07-1, approved by the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), which generally requires that source records are destroyed three years after data are entered into the system, and records in the master file are destroyed three years after the case is closed.

System Managers and Address:

Address inquiries to the Privacy Analyst, Office of Managing Director or Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20554.

Notification Procedure:

Address inquiries to the Privacy Analyst, Office of Managing Director or Consumer and Governmental

Affairs Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20554.

Record Access Procedures:

Address inquiries to the Privacy Analyst, Office of Managing Director or Consumer and Governmental

Affairs Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20554.

An individual requesting access must follow FCC Privacy Act regulations regarding verification of

identity and amendment of records. See 47 CFR 0.554-0.557.

Contesting Record Procedures:

Address inquiries to the Privacy Analyst, Office of Managing Director or Consumer and Governmental

Affairs Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20554.

Record Source Categories:

The sources for the information in this system include the complainants and subject entities.

Exemptions Claimed for the System:

None.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION.

Marlene H. Dortch,

Secretary.

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